

The distribution of grain combines is similar to the distribution of the acreage of small grains combined or harvested for grain. The number of combines per 1,000 acres of crops for which combines were used for harvesting was 7.6 in 1959 as compared with 4.8 in 1949.

According to a sample survey in 1960, combines are used for harvesting approximately 130 million acres of grain and other crops. This acreage represents approximately 91 percent of the acreage of all crops for which combines are used for harvesting.

Pick-up balers.—Hay is one of the three leading crops on the basis of acreage in the United States. The harvesting of hay has become increasingly mechanized during the last two decades. The proportion of farms with pick-up balers in the conterminous United States almost doubled in the last 5 years, from 9.3 percent in 1954 to 18.1 percent in 1959. There was also an increase of 51.8 percent in the number of pick-up balers reported from 1954

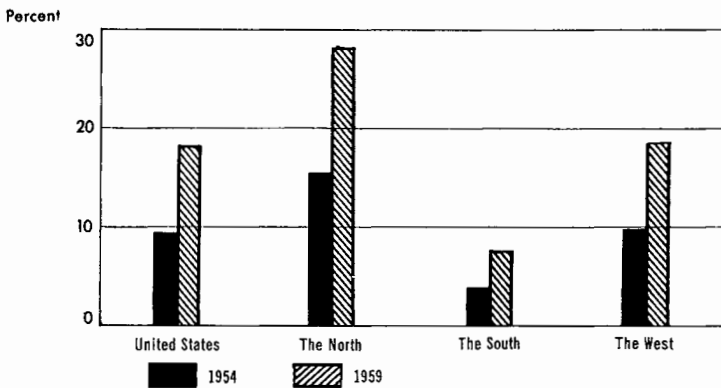
to 1959. A total of 679,754 pick-up balers were reported on 669,531 farms in 1959 compared with 447,909 on 442,872 farms in 1954.

A sample survey made in 1960 indicated that pick-up balers were used to harvest almost 75 million acres of hay and other crops in 1960.

Field forage harvesters.—The mechanization of the harvesting of field forage crops has been increasing rapidly during the decade. From 1954 to 1959, for the conterminous United States, farms with field forage harvesters increased from 197,265 to 275,134, or 39.5 percent, while the number of field forage harvesters increased 44.2 percent.

About 65 percent of the farms reporting field forage harvesters in 1959 were located in the 12 North Central States. The Middle Atlantic Division was also important with 16.8 percent of the farms reporting field forage harvesters. Combined, these divisions accounted for 75.9 percent of the field forage harvesters reported. In 1960, field forage harvesters were used on 13.5 million acres.

PERCENT OF FARMS REPORTING PICK-UP BALERS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1954 AND 1959



Data for Alaska and Hawaii not included.

CHORE EQUIPMENT

Milking machines.—From 1954 to 1959, the number of farms with milking machines decreased from 712,022 to 666,037, or 6.5 percent. Farms reporting milk cows decreased during the same period from 2,957,000 to 1,837,000, or 37.9 percent. In 1954, 24.1 percent of the farms with milk cows had milking machines while in 1959, 36.3 percent had them.

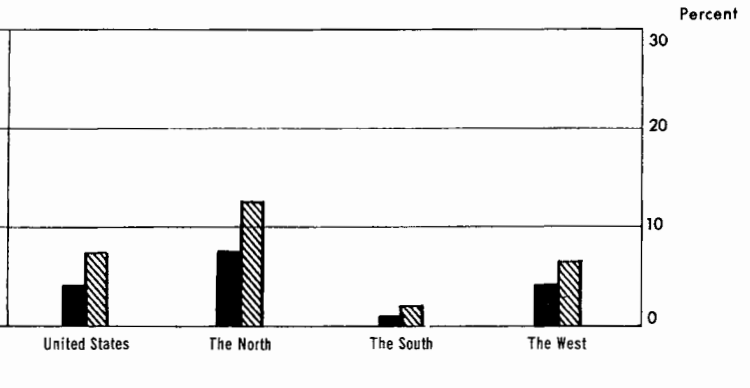
Milking machines were on 88.3 percent of the commercial dairy farms in 1959. The number of farms reporting milking machines was equivalent to 28.7 percent of all farms having 10 or more milk cows in 1959. The distribution of farms with milking machines is similar to the distribution of dairy farms.

Electric milk coolers.—Electric milk coolers were reported on 428,380 farms in 1959. Approximately one farm in four of farms reporting milk cows had an electric milk cooler in 1959. Over two-thirds of all of the commercial dairy farms (68.1 percent) had an electric milk cooler in 1959. The East North Central States had by far the largest number of farms reporting electric milk coolers with 133,547 farms representing 31.2 percent of all reported in the conterminous United States. The Middle Atlantic States had the highest percent of farms with milk cows reporting electric milk coolers with 70.8 percent. The New England States also had a high percent of farms with milk cows reporting milk coolers with 69.5 percent.

Crop driers.—In total, about 51,523 farms reported crop driers for grain, forage, and other crops in 1959. Nearly 58 percent of the driers were reported in the 12 North Central States.

Minnesota led all the States in number of farms reporting crop driers in 1959 with 3,873 followed closely by Iowa with 3,818. In

PERCENT OF FARMS REPORTING FIELD FORAGE HARVESTERS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1954 AND 1959



all, six States—Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Illinois—had more than 3,000 farms each reporting crop driers. Nebraska had the highest percent of farms reporting crop driers in the conterminous United States with 4.0 percent.

Power-operated elevator, conveyor, or blower.—The presence of a power-operated elevator, conveyor, or blower was reported on 925,450 farms in the United States in 1959. Approximately 73 percent of this type of equipment was located in the 12 North Central States. Iowa led all other States with 109,436 farms reporting this type of equipment, Illinois was second with 80,876.

HOME FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Telephones.—Nearly two farms out of three had telephones in 1959. While the number of farms with telephones was only 3.2 percent higher in 1959 than in 1954, the percent of all farms having telephones increased from 48.8 to 65.0 in the conterminous United States. In spite of the increase from 1954 to 1959 in the number of farms with telephones, fewer farms were equipped with this facility in 1959 than in 1920, when 38.7 percent of all farms in the United States had telephone service.

Notwithstanding a 29 percent decrease in the number of farms in the South, the farms with telephones increased 23 percent in this area. The South's 140,000 gain in the number of farms with telephones more than counterbalanced the combined decreases of 58,000 in the North and the 7,900 decrease in the conterminous West.

By geographic divisions, the percent of all farms having telephones in 1959 ranged from 87.5 in the New England States to 40.1 in the East South Central States. The greatest gain in telephones occurred in the East South Central States with an